Mr. Thomas Manjuran *(Government Advocate and Law Officer).*—I move that the Bill may be taken up and finally passed on Wednesday.

Motion was put and carried.

RESOLUTIONS.

1. Revision of the pay of Work Superintendents.

* **Mr. M. Sivarama Menon** *(Ernakulam South).*—" *This Council recommends to the Government that they may be pleased to revise the grade of pay of Works Superintendents of the Public Works Department and fix it at Rs. 25—40—60*".

Sir, the subject-matter of this resolution has once before been brought to the notice of this House and the Hon'ble Members will kindly refresh their memory by referring to the Fourth series, of the Council Proceedings part 7 at page 566. It will be found that motion 14 brought before the Council by the Hon'ble Member for Muslims related to this identical subject-matter and was supported also by the Hon'ble Member for Irinjalakuda. In the reply that was given by the Member for Public Works, it was stated that Government were contemplating to increase the pay of Works Superintendents and all the points raised in the course of the motion by the mover will be taken into serious consideration by the Government. Unfortunately, for some reason or other, in the Budget that was printed for this year, no provision was made for the increase in the salary of these Work Superintendents and, therefore, I have been forced to bring forward this again as a Resolution. Hon'ble Members will be pleased to consider that this is not a recommendation at all but is meant only for the removal of an apparent defect that took place in the re-organisation of the Public Works Department, and this is meant only to redress the real grievances of 21 permanent section superintendends and work superintendents, 19 posts on Rs. 25—40, and 2 on a pay of Rs. 40—60. These Work Superintendents after attaining the pay of Rs. 40 have to retire on this unless they get promotion to the senior grade. The qualifications required for the section superintendents and work superintendents are all the same. While clerks in the various offices can rise up to the grade of Rs. 60, the Work Superintendents who are technically qualified cannot

* Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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rise up to Rs. 60 under the existing rules. The Work Superintendents have also sometimes to do clerical work and, in fact, the clerk of the over-seer is generally the work superintendent. Thus work superintendents have to work both in the office and in the field. The Work Superintendents have to provide themselves with these double qualifications, technical as well as the literary qualification of a clerk. At the same time, it is really curious that their special work as clerks do not give them any increment. In the case of the typists who are technically qualified, Government have ordered that those who have put in 10 years of service would be entitled to rise up to Rs. 60, that is, after getting a pay of Rs. 40, they will be entitled to rise to Rs. 60. My humble submission is that the same argument which prevailed upon the Government to pass that order may be extended in the case of these work superintendents and I do not for a moment think that this is a matter which might not have attracted the attention of the Member for Engineering when he prepared the budget for the year 1111. The arguments in support of this motion have been succinctly put on a previous occasion, and it would be unnecessary for me to dilate upon this point again. Suffice it to say this is a long-standing grievance among the work superintendents who have mostly to do field work and their health is also seriously affected. In course of time, their responsibility increases and they have always to remain on a maximum pay of Rs. 40. That itself is a discouragement and if there is any justification for the increase in the pay of the typist, there is all the greater reason why the work superintendent should also be treated, if not on a more favourable manner, at least to that extent. I, therefore, commend the resolution for the kind acceptance of the House.

Mr. V. K. Kutty *(Mussalmans Special)*.—I second it.

ഫ്രം ബഡ്ജറ്റ് സെഷ്ഷനിൽ ഈ വിഷയകമായുണ്ടായിരുന്ന എന്റെ കട്മോഷൻ വന്നപ്പോൾ ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഇഞ്ചിനീയറിംഗ് മെമ്പർ പറഞ്ഞ മറുപടി "സെക്ഷൻ സൂപ്രണ്ടന്മാരുടെ ശമ്പളം കൂട്ടുന്നകാര്യം ഇപ്പോൾ ഗവമ്മെൻറിന്റെ ആലോചനയിൽ ഇരിക്കുകയാണ്. അതു് നടപടിയിൽ വരുത്തുമ്പോൾ ഈ കാര്യത്തെപ്പറ്റി ഗവമ്മെൻറ് ഗൌരവമായി ആലോചിക്കാം" എന്നാണ്. അന്നത്തെ ആ വാഗ്ദത്തം അനുസരിച്ചു് ഞാൻ അതു പിൻവലിച്ചു. ഗവമ്മെൻറിന്റെ ആ വാഗ്ദത്തം ഇതുവരെ നിറവേറിയിട്ടില്ല. വളരെ ക്ഷമയുള്ള ഒരു വാഗ്ദാനമാണതെന്നു ഞങ്ങൾ വിശ്വസിച്ചുപോയി. പക്ഷെ, നിർഭാഗ്യവശാൽ അതു് പ്രവൃത്തിരൂപത്തിൽ ഉണ്ടായില്ല.

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എനിക്ക ഇതിനെസംബന്ധിച്ചു പറയാനുള്ളതെല്ലാം എന്റെ കട് മോഷൻ അവതരിപ്പിച്ച അവസരത്തിൽ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. സാധുക്കളുടെ കാര്യം വരുമ്പോൾമാത്രം ഗവമ്മെൻറു വളരെ പിന്നോക്കം നില്ക്കുന്നതു അപമാനകരമാണ്. അടികൊള്ളുവാൻ ചെണ്ട; പണം വാങ്ങാൻ മാരാർ എന്നപോലേ അവരെക്കൊണ്ടു വേലചെയ്യിച്ചിട്ടാണ് വലിയ വലിയ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ ഉയന്ന ശമ്പളം വാങ്ങുന്നതെന്നും താഴ്ന്നവരുടെ ന്യായമായ കാര്യങ്ങളെ അവഗണിച്ചു പ്രവൃത്തിക്കുന്നപക്ഷം സമാധാനത്തോടുകൂടി ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു മേധാവികൾക്കു ജോലികൾ നിർവ്വഹിച്ചു കൊണ്ടുപോകുവാൻ കഴിയുകയില്ലെന്നും ഗവമ്മെൻറു ധരിക്കണമെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു്. ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ കൂടുതൽ സമയം എടുക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ല. ഗവമ്മെൻറിന്റെ വാശത്തം അനുസരിച്ചു് പ്രവൃത്തിക്കണമെന്നു മാത്രമേ എനിക്കപേക്ഷയുള്ളൂ.

Mr. A. Narayana Menon *(Vyttila).*—In supporting this resolution, I wish to bring to the notice of the House the schedule published by the Government on the list of appointments and the minimum qualifications, in column 2, regarding pay on page 12, Section and Work Superintendents, are graded on Rs. 40—60 and 25—40. Of these two grades, no discrimination has been made. Qualifications required being equal, all may be put on the same scale. It is very reasonable and I hope the Government will accept it.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—Sir, it was in the year 1101 that the pay of the Section Superintendents was raised.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Pallippuram).*—What was their pay before?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—It was only Rs. 25. It is true that the Government said on a previous occasion that they would consider their case, but you must understand that we have 21 of such officers, in the Department. If the pay is revised as now suggested in the resolution the annual increase in the expenditure when all these people reach their maximum of pay will be Rs. 4500, but calculated on the usual method of average pay calculation, it will be so high as Rs. 1,400 per year. On strictly financial grounds, therefore, Government consider that is not advisable to raise the pay of Section Superintendents at present.

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar *(Comptroller of Accounts).*—The Chief Engineer has explained the position. I have only to say on one point in regard to the resolution. Because the pay of the typist has been raised from Rs. 25—40 the same

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argument is said to hold good in the case of section superintendents. It would be understood that when the typist's scale of pay was proposed to be revised, it was argued that the typist's work is different from that of any other officer of the Government. They have got sedentery work to do and their case must be specially considered was the argument at the time. But in the case of the work superintendents, they have got executive work, and thereby they would be able to have more healthy field for work and surroundings than in the case of typists. This is only by way of additional information.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Ernakulam South).*—In view of the reply to the Council in 1110 I really did not expect that this resolution would be really opposed on financial grounds which is now argued as the reason for negativing this resolution. That cannot really be the basis for the present, at any rate, because if we are to keep 20 years in our mind, it does not come to Rs. 400. The amount of increment may be conveniently allocated and cutting down the figure to Rs. 1—8—0, the recurring charges for the next 10 years will not be so very prohibitive. I do not for a moment think that it is really a vital ground to be put forward against this resolution. I therefore decide to put the resolution to the vote of the House.

Resolution was put and lost.

2. Provisions to be made in the Staff Selection Board Rules.

Mr. A. Narayana Menon *(Vyttila).*—*"This Council recommends to the Government that the Application form issued by the Staff Selection Board and the instructions appended to the said form be so amended as to protect the interests of (1) thrown out acting hands who entered the State service first before the age of 25 (2) applicants who applied on prior occasions for posts before the completion of the age of 25 and whose names are in the waiting list kept in the various departments of the State and (3) specialists seeking appointments in such of the departments of the State as require their service even thouyh they are above the age of 25."*

Sir, at the time I tabled this resolution, Government order published on page 255 of the Gazette, dated 25th Kanni was not passed. The Proceedings published state 'Standing Order No. 7 already contained provision to exempt candidates who have held acting or temporary appointments in the service before they attain the age of 25. There is no intention to abrogate

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